



Chesterfield County Neighborhood Watch Newsletter

Emergency	911	Crime Prevention Main Office	318-8699
Non-Emergency	748-1251	Business Security Assessments	318-8690
NW Coordinator	706-2662	Home Security Assessments	318-8693

Going for a Walk

You may leave home for a short time to take a brisk walk around the neighborhood. If you have an established watch program in place, your block will be a much safer place for even a late night stroll. There are more things you can do to make sure you are safe while getting some exercise and fresh air near your home.

Walk with confidence and be extremely aware of your surroundings at all times. Pay attention to anything and anyone around you. Criminals do not want to be seen, especially before they make an attack, and they will be likely to leave you alone if they realize you have noticed them. This ruins the element of surprise that they rely on to catch their victims off guard. While you are out, carry a cell phone with you so you can make an emergency call if you are in danger or come across someone who is in need of help. When you leave your home, do you lock the doors and make sure the windows are closed ... every time? Even if you will not be gone for long it is important to thoroughly secure every part of your home.



Break Ins Happen Quickly—It only takes a few minutes for a break in to occur. In fact, most criminals move as quickly as possible to avoid the possibility of being caught. Someone could come home at any time, so they work fast to collect your valuables and get away.

Welcome New Neighborhood Watches

Chesterfield County Police Department Neighborhood Watch would like to welcome the following new neighborhood watches:



- **Arbor Landing**

Thank you for your efforts in making your neighborhood a safer place to live!

Senior Citizens Academy

Applications are now being accepted for the 7th Senior Citizens Academy which starts May 17, 2011, and runs every Tuesday, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. until July 19, 2011. This is an opportunity for Chesterfield County seniors to get a behind the scenes look at the day-to-day operation of the police department. For more information, please contact Cpl. Tim Lamb at 748-1585 or lambt@chesterfield.gov.

CERT Training Course Starts March 1, 2011



Neighbors Helping Neighbors

March 1, 3, 8, 10, 15, 17, 22, 24
8:30 a.m.—Noon
Eanes-Pittman Public Safety
Training Center,
6610 Public Safety Way
Chesterfield, VA 23832

Limited to 30 students.
Registration is available online
at www.chesterfield.gov/CERT/

CHESTERFIELD
EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT
SHERRI LAFFOON,
CERT COORDINATOR

P. O. Box 2714
Chesterfield, VA 23832

Phone: (804) 751-CERT
www.chesterfield.gov/CERT/
CERT@chesterfield.gov



Training that could save your life and the lives of your family and neighbors will be offered beginning March 1 for the Chesterfield County Community Emergency Response Team, or CERT. The **free** eight-day initial training course, held over four weeks, provides citizens with the basic emergency response skills that are essential in the critical time after a disaster and before emergency responders arrive on scene.

Instructors provide hands-on training in such critical areas as disaster preparedness, fire safety and suppression, basic emergency medical skills, search and rescue techniques, emergency communications, and disaster psychology.

Graduates earn a certificate and CERT emergency gear including a backpack and helmet. Participants must be 18 years of age or older.



citizen  **corps**



Home Security Checklist

Use this as a guide as you check your home for safety measures. Boxes marked NO indicate areas where you could take action to improve your home security. These are just some steps that you can take to decrease the likelihood that you or your home is targeted for a crime.



Exterior Doors:	Yes	No
All doors are locked at night and every time we leave the house - even if it's just for a few minutes.		
Doors are solid hardwood or metal-clad.		
Doors feature wide-angle peepholes at heights everyone can use.		
If there are glass panels in or near our doors, they are reinforced in some way so that they cannot be shattered.		
All entryways have a working, keyed entry lock and sturdy deadbolt lock installed into the frame of the door.		
Spare keys are kept with a trusted neighbor, not under a doormat or planter, on a ledge, or in the mailbox.		
Garage and Sliding Door:	Yes	No
The door leading into the home from the garage is solid wood or metal-clad and protected with a quality keyed door lock and deadbolt.		
The overhead garage door has a lock so that we do not rely solely on the automatic garage door opener to provide security.		
Garage doors are all locked when leaving the house.		
The sliding glass door has a strong, working key lock.		
A dowel or a pin to secure the sliding glass door has been installed to prevent the door from being shoved aside or lifted off the track.		
The sliding glass door is locked every night and each time we leave the house.		
Protecting Windows:	Yes	No
Every window in the home has a working key lock or is securely pinned.		
Windows are always locked, even when they are opened a few inches for ventilation.		
Outdoor Security:	Yes	No
Shrubs / bushes are trimmed to so there is no place for someone to hide.		
There are no dark areas around our house, garage, or yard at night that would hide prowlers.		
Every outside door has a bright, working light to illuminate visitors.		
Floodlights are used appropriately to ensure effective illumination.		
Outdoor lights are on in the evening? Whether someone is at home or not; or a photocell or motion-sensitive lighting system has been installed.		
Our house number is clearly displayed so police and other emergency vehicles can find the house quickly.		

Security When Away From Home:	Yes	No
At least two light timers have been set to turn the lights on and off in a logical sequence when we are away from home for an extended time period.		
The motion detector or other alarm system (if we have one) has been activated when we leave home.		
Mail and newspaper deliveries have been stopped or arrangements for a neighbor/friend to pick them up have been made when we go away from home for a period of time.		
A neighbor has been asked to tend the yard and watch our home when we are away.		
Outdoor Valuables and Personal Property:	Yes	No
Gate latches, garage doors, and shed doors are all locked with high-security, laminated padlocks.		
Gate latches, garage doors, and shed doors are locked after every use.		
Grills, lawn mowers, and other valuables are stored in a locked garage or shed, or if left out in the open, are hidden from view with a tarp and securely locked to a stationary point.		
Every bicycle is secured with a U-bar lock or quality padlock and chain.		
Bikes are always locked, even if we leave them for just a minute.		
Firearms are stored unloaded and locked in storage boxes and secured with trigger guard locks.		
Valuable items, such as television, stereos, and computers have been inscribed with identifying number approved by local police.		
Our home inventory is up-to-date and includes pictures. A complete copy is kept somewhere out of the house.		